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JPB
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Applicant : Jason Arnold et al.
Appl. No : PCT/CA00/01354
Filed : November 15, 2000
Title : IMMERSED MEMBRANE FILTRATION
SYSTEM AND OVERFLOW PROCESS

Grp./A.U. : 1723

Docket No. : 4320-350

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DEC 20 2001
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C
20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1 -20 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 21 - 32 as follows.

- [Handwritten mark]*
- 21.(new) A filtering reactor comprising,
a) a tank open to the atmosphere;
b) one or more modules of suction driven filtering membranes in the tank
for withdrawing a filtered permeate;
c) an inlet to add feed water to the tank; and,
d) a retentate outlet to discharge water containing retained solids from the
tank from above the one or more modules;
wherein
e) the one or more modules may be backwashed with a liquid comprising
permeate;
f) the one or more modules have a surface area of at least 500 square
meters for every square meter of horizontal cross-sectional area of the
tank; and,